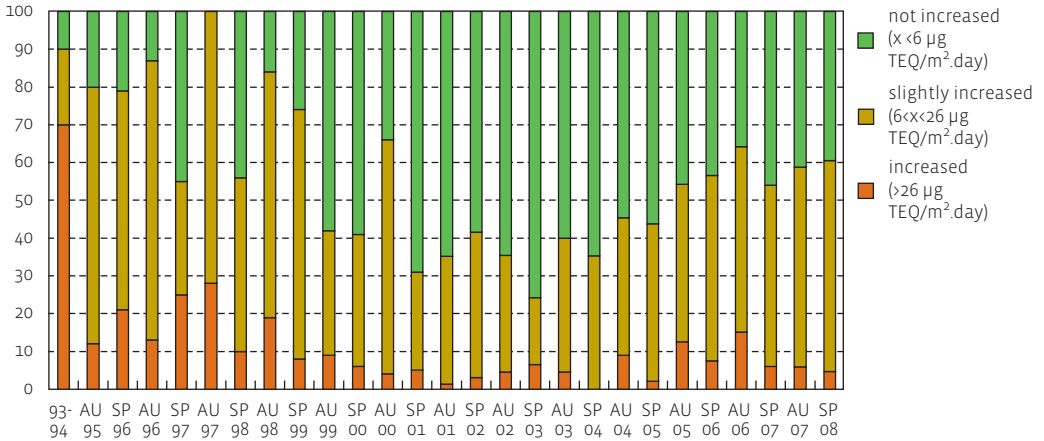




measurements (%)



SP: spring, AU: autumn

Source: VMM

## Measurements of dioxin deposition primarily as local control

The half-yearly measurements of dioxin deposition show a decreasing trend (evaluation standards average monthly dioxin deposition according to VMM proposal). In 2007 barely 6.0 % (spring) and 5.9 % (autumn) of the measurements increased whereas in 1993 this was still 70 %. This decrease is a translation of the reduced dioxin emissions, mostly due to the drastic remediation and the use of clean technology for waste incineration and in sintering installations at the end of the 1990s. 75 % of the current dioxin emissions originate from households with building heating using solid fuels and burning waste in small barrels and open fires as the main sources.

Because the measurement programme in recent years is intended for the detection of new, local dioxin sources a complete comparison with previous years is not easy.

The measurement programme changes every year, taking into account the results from the past and insights and requests from government agencies.

In addition to the half-yearly deposition measurements, from April 2001 monthly measurements have also been made at locations where high depositions are repeatedly measured. This gives a picture of the dioxin and PCB peaks and one can investigate the impact of the remediations in the short term. In the immediate vicinity of some scrap processing companies increased depositions of dioxins, and in particular PCB 126, are regularly measured. The remediation measures which the environmental inspectorate imposes on the scrap processing sector have been mainly aimed at substance control. The subsequent measurement results show whether the measures are sufficient in reducing the presence of dioxins and PCB in the immediate ambient air.